In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented below.

1. (**Currently amended**) Pharmaceutical composition containing a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein and a biodegradable protein as a carrier, wherein said biodegradable protein binds the hedgehog protein and releases said protein in a delayed manner.

2. (**Original**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, containing soluble collagen as a carrier.

3. (**Original**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, containing insoluble, cross-linked collagen.

4. (**Currently amended**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in ~~the~~ any of claims 1, 2, or 3 [[-3]], wherein said composition further contains ~~containing~~ a hyaluronic acid or alginate.

5. (**Currently amended**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 4 ~~claims 1-4~~, containing a hedgehog protein at a concentration of 0.1-100 mg/ml.

6. (**Currently amended**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 5 ~~claims 1-5~~, wherein the composition is buffered in a range between pH 4.5 and 10.

7. (**Currently amended**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 5 or 6 ~~claims 1-6~~, containing arginine or argininium ions.

8. (**Currently amended**) Process for the production of a pharmaceutical composition, wherein a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein is combined in a therapeutically effective amount with a biodegradable protein as a carrier, and wherein said biodegradable protein binds the hedgehog protein and releases said protein in a delayed manner.

9. (**Withdrawn**) Process for the delayed release of a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein in the human body, wherein the said hedgehog protein is applied locally in the human body in a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claims 1-7.

10. (**Original**) Process for the production of an insoluble, biodegradable protein carrier matrix which contains a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein, wherein the carrier matrix is incubated with a solution containing the said hedgehog protein at a concentration of 3 mg/ml or more and arginine or argininium ions at a concentration of 10 mmol/l or more and the carrier matrix coated in this manner is isolated.